

Remarks

Support for Amendments

Support for the foregoing amendments to the claims can be found throughout the specification and claims as originally filed. Specifically, support for the amendments to claim 59 can be found in the specification and in claims 1 and 54 as originally filed; and support for new claims 101-108 can be found, *inter alia*, in the specification at page 28, paragraph 0073. Accordingly, these amendments add no new matter, and their entry and consideration are respectfully requested.

Status of the Claims

By the foregoing amendments, claims 39-58 and 97-100 are cancelled as being drawn to nonelected restriction groups (*see* Reply to Restriction and Election of Species Requirements, *infra*); Applicants reserve the right to file one or more continuing or divisional applications directed to the subject matter of these canceled claims. In addition, by the foregoing amendments claim 59 is sought to be amended and new claims 101-108 are sought to be added. Upon entry of these amendments, claims 1-38, 59-96 and 101-108 are pending in the application, with claims 1 and 59 being the independent claims.

Reply to Restriction and Election of Species Requirements

In reply to the Office Action dated October 10, 2006, requesting an election of one invention to prosecute in the above-referenced patent application, Applicants hereby provisionally elect to prosecute the invention of Group I. In reply to the Election of Species Requirement in the same Office Action, Applicants hereby provisionally elect a conjugate in which the bioactive component is a colony-stimulating factor, as recited in claim 30, and specifically a GM-CSF, and in which the polyalkylene glycol moiety is a poly(ethylene glycol) as recited in claim 4. It is respectfully believed that claims 1-27, 30, 35, 38, 59-82, 85, 90, 93-96 and 101-108 read on the elected species.

These elections are made without traverse, and without prejudice to or disclaimer of the other claims or inventions disclosed. In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.141(a), Applicants also reserve the right to claim additional species, and/or to have additional species searched and/or examined, in the event that a generic claim is found to be allowable.

It is not believed that extensions of time are required, beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in accompanying documents. However, if additional extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), and any fees required therefor are hereby authorized to be charged to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

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